

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 154405
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SCS-06 CA-01 HA-05 H-01 /027 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W:PRCHAVEAS:HMN

APPROVED BY AF/W:TWMSMITH

L/AF:NELY (INFO)

CA/SCS:SHOPKINS (INFO)

-----117807 171116Z /21

R 170002Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:CASC (LEFEVRE, LOUIS)

SUBJECT: LOUIS LEFEVRE

1. LEFEVRE CALLED ON AF/W DEPUTY DIRECTOR HOUDEK JUNE 15. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY CHARLES BROWER OF WHITE AND CASE. ALSO PRESENT WERE AF/W COUNTRY OFFICER AND REPRESENTATIVES OF L/AF AND CA/SCS.

2. LEFEVRE SAID HE WAS VERY IMPRESSED BY AND GREATFUL FOR ALL THE EFFORTS THAT WERE EXERTED ON HIS BEHALF BY THE DEPARTMENT AND AMBASSADOR EASUM AND THE EMBASSY STAFF. HE NOTED THE AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY GRACIOUS IN RECEIVING HIM AND COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES AT ALL HOURS WHEN THE CASE DEMANDED IT. HE FELT THAT THE AMBASSADOR'S DISCUSSION WITH YUSUF JUST BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR PARIS HAD BEEN PARTICULARLY HELPFUL (LAGOS 6697). LEFEVRE WILL RETURN TO LAGOS ON MONDAY.

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3. LEFEVRE NOTED THAT SINCE HIS PRISON EXPERIENCE EGBE HAS UNDERGONE WHAT HE (LEFEVRE) CAN ONLY DESCRIBE AS A "PERSONALITY CHANGE." HE FINDS PARTICULARLY STRANGE EGBE'S SEEMING HESITANCY ABOUT COMPLETING THE LOAN AGREEMENT WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF THE CASE AGAINST THEM. THE COMPLETION OF THE LOAN WOULD, OF COURSE, BE OF SOME ASSISTANCE TO THEIR CASE.

4. BROWER WILL ALSO TRAVEL TO LAGOS NEXT WEEK. HE SAID THAT IF THE CASE IS NOT ENDED ON JUNE 23 AND GOES TO TRIAL, THEY WILL SEEK DISMISSAL AT THE END OF THE PROSECUTION'S PRESENTATION. IF IT IS NOT GRANTED, THEY WILL THEN SEEK AN ADJOURNMENT TO PREPARE WITNESSES. IF THE ADJOURNMENT IS FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME THEY WILL LIKELY SEEK PERMISSION FOR LEFEVRE TO LEAVE AGAIN AND MAY AGAIN CALL ON THE EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE.

5. LEFEVRE SAID THAT HIS VISIT HAD GREATLY REASSURED HIS MOTHER AND THAT HER HEALTH HAS IMPROVED. NEWSOM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE154405
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PRCHAVEAS:HMN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780253-1160
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780647/aaaaboty.tel
Line Count: 74
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6314c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2308601
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOUIS LEFEVRE
TAGS: CASC, (LEFEVRE, LOUIS)
To: LAGOS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6314c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014